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Message Text

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55
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /067 W
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R 261413Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2069
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 852

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, YO
SUBJ: NINE NEW PRESIDIUM MEMBERS

REF: BELGRADE A-081, FEB 24, 1975

1. AT SECOND SESSION OFLCY CENTRAL COMMITTEE FEB 25,
NINE NEW MEMBERS WERE ELECTED TO PARTY PRESIDIUM, BRINGING
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP TO 48. SIX MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WHO
WERE HERETOFORE NOT ON PRESIDIUM, AUGMENTED BY THREE OTHER
CC MEMBERS MAKE UP THE NINE: IVAN KUKOC (JNA); MUNIR
MESIHOVIC (B&H); DUSAN POPOVIC (VOJVODINA); DRAGOLJUB STAVREV
(MACEDONIA); ALI SUKRIJA (KOSOVO); DOBRIVOJE VIDIC (SERBIA);
MILUTIN BALTIC (CROATIA); DOBROSAV CULAFIC (MONTENEGRO);
AND MIHA RAVNIK (SLOVENIA).

2. ENLARGEMENT OF PRESIDIUM ELIMINATED ANOMALOUS ARRANGEMENT
WHEREBY SIX MEMBERS OF PRESIDIUM EXCOM WERE NOT MEMBERS OF
PRESIDIUM ITSELF. JOURNALISTS WERE TOLD BEFORE ELECTION
THAT CHANGE WOULD MAKE PRESIDIUM "MORE EFFICIENT". THREE
ADDITIONAL MEMBERS ROUND OUT NATIONAL KEY (ONE NEW MEMBER
REPRESENTS EACH REPUBLIC, PROVINCE OR JNA). THERE IS ALSO A NEAT
BALANCE AMONG THE MAJOR NATIONALITIES: POPOVIC IS FROM VOJVODINA
BUT AN ETHNIC SERB; KUKOC, A CROAT, REPRESENTS THE ARMY; MESIJOVIC
IS A MOSLEM AND SUKRIJA AN ALBANIAN.

3. RE REFAIR, MONTENEGRIN LC INEXPLICABLY USED OUTDATED
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EDITION OF STATUES IN ELECTING CULAFIC TO PRESIDIUM, AND

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APPARENTLY SLIPPED UP IN NOTIFYING PRESS. HIS WAS THE ONLY
NAME KNOWN BEFOREHAND. ART 66 OF REVISED STATUTES ADOPTED
AT TENTH PARTY CONGRESS EMPOWERS LCY PRESIDENT TO PROPOSE
CC MEMBERS FOR ELECTION TO PRESIDIUM. SAME ART ALSO PROVIDES
FOR EQUAL REPRESENTATION OF REPUBLICS, PROVINCES
AND ARMY ON PRESIDIUM AND ACCOUNTS FOR CAREFUL ATTENTION
PAID TO NATIONAL KEY IN SELECTING NEW MEMBERS.
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